

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 6, 2015

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 425**

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**Introduced by Senator Hernandez**

February 25, 2015

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An act to amend Sections 52300 and 52500 of the Education Code, relating to career technical education, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 425, as amended, Hernandez. Career technical education.

(1) Existing law provides that the Legislature declares that a regional occupational center will serve the state and national interests in providing career technical and technical education to students, including, but not limited to, high school students.

This bill would instead provide that the Legislature declares that ~~the~~ *a regional occupational center and program or a county office of education* will serve the state and national interests in providing secondary and postsecondary *programs focused on* career technical and technical education to those pupils. *The bill would also express legislative recognition that, for purposes of participating in any student financial assistance program authorized by a specified federal statute, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may certify, by name, a regional occupational center and program or a county office of education.*

(2) Existing law requires adult schools and evening high schools to consist of classes for ~~adults~~ *adults*, and authorizes minors to be admitted into those classes pursuant to policy adopted by the governing board of the school district and if those minors meet certain eligibility requirements.

This bill would authorize those classes to include postsecondary career technical education programs. *The bill would, for purposes of participation in any student financial assistance program authorized by a specified federal statute, authorize the Superintendent to certify, by name, an adult school or evening high school.*

(3) This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 52300 of the Education Code is amended  
2 to read:

3 52300. (a) (1) In enacting this article, it is the intent of the  
4 Legislature to provide qualified pupils with the opportunity to  
5 attend a technical school or enroll in a career technical or technical  
6 training program, regardless of the geographical location of their  
7 residence in a county or region. ~~The~~

8 (2) *The* Legislature hereby declares that a regional occupational  
9 center *and program or a county office of education* will serve the  
10 state and national interests in providing secondary and  
11 postsecondary *programs focused on* career technical and technical  
12 education to prepare pupils for an increasingly technological  
13 society in which generalized training and skills are insufficient to  
14 prepare high school pupils and graduates, and out-of-school youth  
15 and adults for the many employment opportunities that require  
16 special or technical training and skills. ~~The~~

17 (3) *The* Legislature also declares that regional occupational  
18 centers *and programs or county offices of education* will enable a  
19 broader curriculum in technical subjects to be offered, and will  
20 avoid unnecessary duplication of courses and expensive training  
21 equipment, and will provide a flexibility in operation that will  
22 facilitate rapid program adjustments and meeting changing training  
23 needs as they arise.

24 (b) It is recognized by the Legislature that career technical  
25 programs may achieve great flexibility of planning, ~~scope~~ *scope*,  
26 and operation by the conduct of these programs in a variety of  
27 physical facilities at various training locations.

1 (c) It is the further intent of the Legislature that regional  
2 occupational centers and programs *or county offices of education*  
3 provide career technical and occupational instruction related to  
4 the attainment of skills so that trainees are prepared for gainful  
5 employment in the area for which training was provided, or are  
6 upgraded so they have the higher level skills required because of  
7 new and changing technologies or so that they are prepared for  
8 enrollment in more advanced training programs.

9 (d) *The Legislature further recognizes that, for purposes of*  
10 *participation in any student financial assistance program*  
11 *authorized by Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965,*  
12 *as amended (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070 et seq.), the Superintendent may*  
13 *certify, by name, a regional occupational center and program or*  
14 *a county office of education.*

15 SEC. 2. Section 52500 of the Education Code is amended to  
16 read:

17 52500. (a) Adult schools and evening high schools shall consist  
18 of classes for ~~adults~~ *adults*, and may include postsecondary career  
19 technical education programs. Minors may be admitted to those  
20 classes pursuant to board policy and Section 52500.1.

21 (b) *For purposes of participation in any student financial*  
22 *assistance program authorized by Title IV of the federal Higher*  
23 *Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070 et seq.),*  
24 *the Superintendent may certify, by name, an adult school or an*  
25 *evening high school.*

26 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
27 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within  
28 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into  
29 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

30 In order for regional occupational *centers and programs, county*  
31 *offices of education, adult schools, and evening high schools* to  
32 satisfy federal requirements in order to participate in federal student  
33 aid programs, it is necessary for this act to take effect immediately.